MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 AUGUST 1982

Lebanon

Israeli Position -- Up to 2,500 "terrorists" can remain in Beirut after the entry of the multinational force on condition the United States, France and Italy guarantee to either enforce the departure of the remaining "terrorists" or allow the IDF to solve the problem, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin announced on 8 August in remarks at the National Security College reported by 'AL HAMISHMAR. In another part of his address, Begin said he has notified the United States that Israel accepts U.S. envoy Philip Habib's original idea that the multinational force enter Beirut after most of the "terrorists" have left Lebanon along with the 1,500 Syrians besieged in the city. There are grounds to assume that the "terrorists" will leave soon and that the IDF will not have to enter west Beirut, Begin said. Meanwhile, after a series of political meetings in Beirut, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said in remarks broadcast by IDF radio that the main problem now is the Arab countries' failure to accept the "terrorists." Since no Arab country is prepared to absorb them, he stated, there is currently no arrangement, agreement or possible deal. However, he added, the "terrorists" are on the brink of being uprooted from Beirut one way or another. In remarks reported by ITIM, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stressed that the air force bombings in Beirut are the only way to tell the PLO that it can be removed from Lebanon at any time.

While Israel's position in the negotiations has softened, Jerusalem radio said, Prime Minister Begin has emphasized to the United States that Israel rejects the French initiative to send troops to Beirut without coordination with Israel or the United States. Earlier, senior Israeli circles cited by Jerusalem television described the PLO's stated willingness to leave Beirut after the arrival of French forces as "a fraudulent plan by a fraudulent international force." Noting that Israel had warned France not to send its troops to Beirut, the television claimed U.S. representatives had consented to the plan for the arrival of French troops without the knowledge of the White House and despite Philip Habib's promise to Israel that a multinational force would not enter Beirut until the "vast majority" of the "terrorists" have left the city. MA'ARIV subsequently said the breakthrough in the negotiations -- "made thanks to many casualties" -- might now be blocked by the French Marines scheduled to land on the Beirut coast through a "plot" conceived with several U.S. diplomats in order to spare the PLO the need to totally evacuate Beirut. Israeli circles cited by the JERUSALEM POST likewise said that by endorsing the latest PLO evacuation proposals, Habib is seeking to create a situation in which only a few hundred of the "terrorists" will evacuate, while the bulk of them remain in Beirut, sheltering behind a French-spearheaded multinational force. According to Jerusalem radio, Israeli forces took up positions in Juniyah on 8 August in order to prevent a French landing. However, Voice of Lebanon radio said the IDF left Juniyah "following contacts."

PLO Withdrawal, Multinational Force -- If the negotiations continue in the present positive atmosphere, the first batch of PLO fighters will leave Beirut on 11 or 12 August as the first part of a three-stage withdrawal process lasting 2 weeks, Beirut radio reported on 8 August citing informed political sources. The same day, a Voice of Lebanon report said the Lebanese Government might make an official request for international forces to come to Beirut within the next 24 hours." The radio subsequently reported that at a meeting of Lebanese Army, U.S. and French representatives chaired by U.S. envoy Habib, it was agreed that the PLO fighters should start their departure simultaneously with the arrival of French forces, which will constitute the vanguard of the multinational force. Citing informed sources, the radio spoke of surprise in Beirut about Israel's rejection of this plan. It also asserted that the destination of the PLO fighters has been decided.

Earlier in the weekend, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan announced that the Lebanese and Palestinian leaders were in complete agreement about the departure of the PLO fighters and that the two sides had agreed on the withdrawal timetable with Habib, according to the radio. Noting that he had received clarifications from the PLO "which might be the final ones," Al-Wazzan nevertheless admitted that he did not know the results of Habib's talks on these matters with the Israelis.

The Palestinian-Lebanese-U.S. agreement was reached after the PLO had submitted to Habib a written document discussing a PLO evacuation by sea to Jordan's Aqaba port, overland to Syria and by air to other destinations, according to Beirut radio. Commanders of the U.S. and French multinational force contingents have arrived in Lebanon, the radio said. Meanwhile, the French Defense Ministry denied reports that French naval officers had landed in the Christian eastern sector to discuss the possible role of the French Navy in the PLO evacuation, Paris radio noted. On the other hand, the Italian Defense Ministry confirmed that two Italian Army officers had arrived in Beirut to discuss the logistics of deploying an Italian contingent, AFP reported. The French ambassador in Beirut announced that a first French contingent of 350 men might reach Lebanon by 15 August, AFP also reported.

Regarding the destination of PLO fighters, Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran told the Jordanian National Consultative Council in a speech broadcast by Amman radio that Jordan will welcome all Jordanians among the PLO fighters in accordance with Jordanian law. Official Jordanian sources cited by Beirut radio likewise confirmed that Jordan will host all Palestinians of Jordanian nationality now in Beirut provided they join the Palestine Liberation Army units in Jordan. However, while Beirut radio noted an Egyptian diplomat's announcement that Egypt is prepared to receive PLO leaders and fighters, an official Egyptian source quoted by MENA reaffirmed Egypt's refusal to host Palestinian fighters unless there is an overall solution to the Palestinian issue. Noting that Syria has not officially confirmed reports it has agreed to receive PLO fighters, Monte Carlo radio said observers in Damascus believe that Syria will not abrogate its declared decision not to receive the Palestinian fighters while Israeli forces continue to occupy Lebanon.

Expressing concern that the Israelis are determined to abort any chance of a political solution, an 8 August Voice of Palestine commentary said the ball is now in Israel's court. The Palestinians have displayed flexibility in contrast to Israeli intransigence, the radio contended, and the Israelis no longer have any logical justification for risking military action in view of the important progress made toward a political solution. An Israeli military assault, which may occur within hours, would be an "horrific and avoidable crime," the radio said.

Military Situation -- Israeli planes bombed and demolished an eight-story building in the As-Sana'i' area of west Beirut on 6 August, inflicting over 250 casualties, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported. Voice of Lebanon radio said a senior Palestinian official was buried amid the debris. A subsequent car-bomb explosion in the same area killed or injured 12 people and damaged the Beirut radio building, the Voice of Palestine said. Later the same day, Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces checked an Israeli advance in the Museum area, the radio said. Confirming the air attack on Beirut, the IDF spokesman said the raid was in response to cease-fire violations and was directed at a "terrorist" position, IDF radio reported.

Intermittent and limited artillery exchanges continued on 7 and 8 August, according to Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radio reports. While the Voice of Palestine accused the Israelis of violating the cease-fire, Jerusalem radio said the "terrorists" were responsible for renewing the firing. The Israelis escalated their fire during the afternoon of 8 August when they began a concentrated bombardment of the Burj al-Barajinah camp, the Voice of Palestine said. Artillery exchanges continued throughout the night and into 9 August, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. The Voice of Palestine said the joint forces returned fire by Israeli field artillery and gunboats; Jerusalem radio said the IDF shelling came in reaction to "terrorist" firing.

Citing a senior IDF officer, the Israeli paper MA'ARIV warned that a 4-5,000-strong "terrorist" force has been built up in the Al-Biqa' Valley, thereby establishing the infrastructure for a new and larger "Fatahland." Meanwhile, the Voice of Palestine reported further PLO guerrilla operations behind Israeli lines.

The IDF has lost 323 soldiers killed and 14 missing or captured during the "Peace for Galilee" Operation, HA'ARETZ reported. Damascus radio said 64 Syrians were killed or wounded in last week's fighting in Beirut.

Saudi Position -- Commenting on the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the Saudi information minister condemned the forces which support the "aggression," especially the superpowers, who are held mainly responsible for the action, Riyadh radio reported.

Message to Syria -- Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received a message from the Soviet leadership dealing with Lebanon and bilateral relations, according to SANA.

Inter-Arab Affairs

In a message carried by Rabat radio, Moroccan King Hasan II appealed to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi for the resumption of the Fes Arab summit conference and a preparatory meeting of Arab foreign ministers. Klibi had announced earlier that a quorum had been reached for holding the preparatory foreign ministers summit in Tunisia, according to SPA. KUNA reported that the following agreed to attend the foreign ministers meeting: Syria, Bahrain, the UAE, Somalia, Qatar, the PLO, the YAR, the PDRY, and Kuwait. According to SPA, Saudi Arabia agreed to attend the Arab meetings, while Jordanian Prime Minister Badran told the National Consultative Council in a speech carried by Amman radio that Jordan supports an Arab summit which would unify Arabs regardless of their differences and ideologies. Libya's General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison issued a statement carried by JANA which said Libya would attend the Arab summit if the sole issue discussed would be measures that must be taken against the Israeli invasion of Lebanon such as sending weapons and implementing embargoes. In a related report, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi made a statement to JANA calling for the Arabs to send 10 military units and 500 planes to Syria to use against the Israelis. He said an oil embargo should be implemented to stop any U.S. aid to Israel and that he himself is ready to lead these forces.

Meanwhile, in an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH, Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas said Syria welcomes Arab armies to fight alongside it. He asked why other Arab countries have not sent aircraft to participate in the battle with Israel.

OAU Meeting

JANA reported that Libya's Colonel al-Qadhdhafi opened the "African summit" on 8 August attended by 30 African states. The report said the African leaders agreed that the United States was responsible for hindering the success of the OAU summit and Al-Qadhdhafi stressed that countries which boycotted the meeting had violated the OAU Charter, giving Libya the right to violate the charter as well.

Egypt

Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha issued a decree releasing 646 persons detained under the emergency law, Cairo radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- Iranian forces attempted to penetrate Iraqi positions in the central battle sector but were forced to retreat and nearly 200 Iranians died, an Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio claimed. The communique also said fighting east of Basra resulted in 52 Iranians killed and one Iranian plane downed. An Iranian Revolution Guards communique carried by Tehran radio said that over 200 Iraqis were killed near Qasr-e Shirin and a guerrilla attack on Iraqi forces in the Meymak area resulted in 90 Iraqis killed.

Iraqi Defense Minister Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah alleged that the Iranian Army is regrouping for another attack on Iraq, Baghdad radio reported. He said that if Iran attempted another attack, the result would be in Iraq's favor.

Positions on War, Nonaligned Meeting -- In an address to a group of radio and television personnel reported by IRNA, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni asserted that Iranian forces invaded Iraq for defensive purposes and would continue to fight there until Iraq meets conditions set by Iran. He also said Iraq still occupies some parts of Iranian territory.

Meanwhile, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati rejected a proposal by a visiting Turkish delegation that an Islamic fund be set up to pay war reparations, IRNA reported. Velayati told the delegation headed by the Turkish prime minister that Iran was "too dignified" for such proposals and Iran considered Iraq solely responsible for paying reparations.

On a visit to New Delhi, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi said Iraq expects the nonaligned foreign ministers to meet in Baghdad as planned, INA reported. Hammadi explained that Iraq wanted to consult nonaligned members before the summit begins.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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SOUTH ASIAN CONFERENCE BEGINS IN ISLAMABAD

Yaqub Khan Opens Session

BK071051 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] A 3-day meeting of the foreign secretaries of seven countries of South Asian region began in Islamabad this morning for forging regional cooperation in a number of fields. Inaugurating the meeting, Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan emphasized that Pakistan regarded regional cooperation as an important vehicle for the establishment of mutual confidence and promotion of good neighborly relations in the region. He said this was an objective to which President Mohammad Ziaul Haq remained deeply committed. He said that at a time when crises and conflicts ravaged areas in our immediate neighborhood, it is imperative that we join hands in promoting confidence and cooperation among ourselves.

The foreign minister said the peoples of the region aspire to greater economic gains and rapid social progress and they have an equal (?stake) in the preservation of peace and security in the region. Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that he was confident that the third meeting of the foreign secretaries will build upon the commendable progress achieved at the first two meetings of Colombo and Katmandu. The foreign minister noted that during the short span of 2 years the seven countries have not only successfully explored the possibilities of evolving cooperation but have also identified and agreed upon eight specific areas of mutually beneficial cooperation.

Radio Pakistan's representative says that the meeting elected by acclamation Pakistani Foreign Secretary Niaz A. Naik as its chairman. His name was proposed by the leader of the Maldives delegation and was seconded by the delegate of Bhutan.

Speaking on behalf of all the delegates, the foreign secretary of Sri Lanka thanked the Pakistani foreign minister for articulating the objectives and expectations attached to the meeting. Besides Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Maldives are attending the meeting.

Report on Second Day of Talks

BK081650 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] On the second day of the conference of the seven South Asian foreign secretaries in Islamabad today, it was unanimously agreed to hold a ministerial-level meeting to carry forward the work of effective cooperation among these nations. This decision was taken at an informal discussion which reviewed the practical aspects of the ministerial-level meeting.

A Foreign Office spokesman, briefing newsmen about the main aspects of today's meeting in Islamabad this evening, said that the foreign secretaries have decided to set up a committee consisting of representatives of all member countries. This committee will coordinate the practical programs forwarded by the various working groups. Sri Lanka has been appointed chairman of this committee.

Indian Suggestions

BK081449 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] India has suggested that foreign secretaries of the seven South Asian nations hold a few more meetings at their level before recommending a ministerial meet on the regional cooperation.

Foreign Secretary M.K. Rasgotra told the meeting in Islamabad today that more meetings at the official level need not mean an unduly extended timeframe for the meeting of the foreign ministers. Foreign secretaries, he said, could meet at shorter intervals. Such frequent meetings would help enrich the content of the program of regional cooperation and enable the foreign secretaries to complete the basic work necessary to pave the way for a successful ministerial-level meeting.

Rasgotra suggested that the national media of each country disseminate information about their objectives and efforts toward regional cooperation.

On the second day of the 3-day conference today, officials of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Sir Lanka and Pakistan endorsed the reports of working groups in five specified fields. The five reports endorsed today relate to rural development, agriculture, telecommunications, meteorology and health and population activities. India has suggested economic negotiations, tourism and culture and sports.

Greater Cooperation Urged

BK071313 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] India has called for greater cooperation among South Asian countries in the fields of trade, tourism and culture.

Speaking at the first working session of the seven-nation foreign secretaries conference on regional cooperation in Islamabad today, Foreign Secretary M.K. Rasgotra also offered to share India's experience in utilizing the sea resources on a reciprocal basis. He said these are amongst the other possibilities worth exploring to strengthen cooperation in the eight fields identified at their previous two meetings in Colombo and Katmandu last year.

Rasgotra reiterated India's deep commitment to promoting and strengthening regional cooperation.

Rasgotra, Yaqub Khan Meet

BK080919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Foreign Secretary M.K. Rasgotra had an hour-long meeting with Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in Islamabad yesterday. They are reported to have discussed bilateral matters, the situation in West Asia and regional issues.

DAWN on Regional Cooperation

GF080654 Karachi DAWN in English 5 Aug 82 p 7

[Editorial: "Regional Cooperation in South Asia"]

[Text] The foreign secretaries from the seven South Asian countries who meet in Islamabad on Saturday are expected to decide upon the implementation of the programmes of cooperation they have drawn up at their earlier meetings. The details of these programmes are not known though they cover important areas such as agriculture, telecommunications, rural development, meteorology health, transport, postal services and technology in which the scope for cooperation is by no means limited. Yet it is evident that the pace of progress has slowed down somewhat.

The five study groups set up at the first meeting at Colombo in April 1981 were able to finalise and submit their reports to the second foreign secretaries' conference held at Katmandu in November last year. The third meeting is being held now although the foreign secretaries were scheduled to meet within six to eight months of the previous meeting. It remains to be seen if there will be agreement on the date of the foreign ministers' conference which is to be held before the current year is out.

This experiment in regional cooperation which has been undertaken at the initiative of Bangladesh seeks to develop a regional approach directed towards combating poverty and bringing the benefits of economic development to the people of South Asia. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the partners in this project, face basically similar socio-economic problems. Multilateral cooperation can bring considerable benefit to each country. They stand to gain from an exchange of experiences as well as from a sharing of limited expertise.

It would, however, be unrealistic to expect regional cooperation in South Asia to proceed at a quick pace or for that matter to cover a wide area.

That some difficult sectors such as trade and industry have been kept out of the ambit of the enterprise so far goes to show how modest the initial scale of the effort is going to be. The political basis for economic cooperation has not been adequately prepared.

Although the presence of the will to cooperate is a vital prerequisite for ventures of this nature, it is equally important that political harmony and a climate of understanding should exist if regional cooperation is to realise its potential.

Economic integration in Western Europe, it will be recalled, made rapid strides in the post-war period when tensions had been eliminated and relations between Western European states were cordial and harmonious. This is not the case in South Asia today. Bilateral relations between some of the states are characterised by conflicts of long-standing and misgivings.

The fear of the smaller states of being dominated by the larger ones detracts from the confidence which is so necessary for building up a partnership on the basis of reciprocity and equal benefit.

IRAQI PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY ARRIVES 'UNEXPECTEDLY'

OW081921 Hong Kong AFP in English 1855 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Dacca, Aug. 8 (AFP) -- A member of the Revolutionary Command Council and special envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn arrived here tonight unexpectedly, official news agency BSS reported, quoting the Foreign Ministry.

The reason for Hasan 'Ali arrival and the duration of his stay were not given by the news agency. However, it only said that he arrived by a special plane and was received at the airport by Bangladesh foreign minister, Shamsul Doha.

Mr. 'Ali is the second high-ranking Iraqi official to visit Dacca since early this month.

On August 1, the state minister for foreign affairs, 'Abd al-Hamid 'Alwan, arrived here for a 3-day visit during which he held talks with Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. Mohammad Ershad.

The arrival of Mr. 'Ali tonight was reported amid intense diplomatic offensive by both Iraq and Iran on the question of holding of a summit in Baghdad on September 6.

Iran had vehemently opposed the idea of holding the summit in Baghdad because of its 2-year-old war with Iraq.

General Ershad had sent a letter to the Iraqi president last month reassessing the situation on holding the summit in the Iraqi capital in view of resumption of fighting between Tehran and Baghdad. However, he did not suggest any alternative venue.

Calls on Ershad

BK090436 Dacca Domestic Service in Bengali 0100 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Hasan 'Ali, a member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council and special envoy of the Iraqi president, called on Chief Martial Law Administrator [CMLA] Lt Gen H.M. Ershad in Dacca last night and delivered a message from President Saddam Husayn. The Iraqi envoy arrived in Dacca earlier in the day by special plane. The message is understood to have discussed matters relating to the seventh nonaligned summit.

The discussions with the special envoy are part of the continuing process of consultations between Bangladesh and Iraq on the nonaligned summit. The envoy expressed appreciation to the CMLA and the government and people of Bangladesh for their support and understanding of the current situation.

Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsul Doha was also present during the discussions.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES SPECIAL SOMALI ENVOY

BK080956 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] (Abul Issak Ahmed), visiting special envoy of the president of Somalia, called on Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsul Doha in Dacca yesterday and explained to him the serious situation upholding in Somalia. The envoy has come to Dacca with a message for the chief martial law administrator, Lt Gen H.M. Ershad, from Somali President Siad Barre. The foreign minister expressed his sincere feeling of friendship and brotherhood to the guest between the two Muslim countries and hoped that the forthcoming Islamic conference would express solidarity with the government and the people of Somalia.

GANDHI RETURNS FROM U.S., JAPAN VISITS

BK070707 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] The prime minister has expressed the hope that the new atmosphere of friendship between India and the United States will be durable. Mrs Gandhi made this observation while talking to newsmen soon after her arrival in New Delhi last night after a 9-day visit to the United States and Japan. Describing her visit as a good one, the prime minister said an important result of her visit was that she could establish personal contacts with American leaders and explain India's policies on various issues. Mrs Gandhi said that she has emphasized that differences need not come in the way of strengthening areas of cooperation between the two countries. She stressed the need for continuing efforts to strengthen bonds of friendly relations.

Mrs Gandhi said she could meet a cross-section of people in the United States besides the American leaders and was happy to find their warmth and friendship for the country. The prime minister expressed happiness that some solution has been reached on the nuclear fuel supply to the Tarapur plant. She pointed out that discussions were going on the subject for some time and there is no sudden change in America's attitude about fuel supply to Tarapur.

When asked whether the United States had agreed to India's right to reprocess the spent fuel, Mrs Gandhi said: Let us face the problem when it comes.

To another question, Mrs Gandhi said India's views on Lebanon had been made known.

Asked whether there was an assurance from President Reagan that there would be no further supply of arms to Pakistan, Mrs Gandhi said that she did not seek such an assurance.

Among those present at the airport to receive the prime minister included her Cabinet colleagues, members of the diplomatic corps, members of Parliament and a large number of Congress-I party workers.

Earlier, as she flew over China, Burma and Bangladesh on her way back home from Tokyo, the prime minister sent messages of good wishes to the leaders of these countries.

RAO, CUBA'S TORRAS DISCUSS NONALIGNED SUMMIT

BK081641 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Visiting Cuban Vice Minister for External Affairs Pelegrin Torras called on External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao in New Delhi today. He acquainted Rao with the Cuban proposal for a special ministerial meeting of the nonaligned bureau on the 21st of this month to take a final decision on the venue of the forthcoming nonaligned summit.

Torras also met Additional Secretary of the External Affairs Ministry S.K. Singh.

Cuban Proposal Considered

BK070727 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry has confirmed that India is now examining a proposal from Cuba for a ministerial meeting of nonaligned countries. The meeting is to discuss the question of the venue of the next nonaligned summit to be held next month. Cuban President Fidel Castro is reported to be of the opinion that the seventh nonaligned summit cannot be held in Baghdad because of the Gulf war. Iran has represented to Cuba that the summit could not be held in Baghdad bacause Iraq had violated the nonaligned principle of non-aggression.

FRANCE'S CHEYSSON PAYS VISIT TO NEW DELHI

Comments on Nuclear Fuel

BK080903 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, now in the capital on a day's visit, has said his country is prepared to supply nuclear fuel for the Tarapur plant under the same provisions as agreed upon with the United States.

Speaking to newsmen at Delhi airport on arrival last night, he said the recent high level contacts between Indian and French leaders would be fruitful in identifying areas of collaboration between the two countries. Cheysson will call on Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi and meet the External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao. Earlier, he was received at the airport by Additional Secretary in External Affairs Ministry J.S. Teja and French Ambassador to India Andre Ross.

Vice Foreign Minister of Cuba Torras has also arrived in New Delhi on a 2-day visit.

Meeting With Rao

BK080907 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, now on a visit to India, today met External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao and had talks with him for more than 2 hours. The two leaders are understood to have discussed bilateral matters and international situation with particular reference to the situation in West Asia.

Cheysson will meet Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi in the evening before leaving for Paris.

News Conference

BK081429 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1330 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson has said France will supply nuclear fuel for the Tarapur reactor at the earliest. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi today, he said the supply will be sent as soon as the technical details and notes on this issue are exchanged and finalized.

About the Mirage deal, Cheysson said that at the present moment it is still at the stage of a letter of intent, but there is still little doubt that the deal will be finalized.

He said we look forward to fruitful cooperation with India and the recent contract on telecommunications is an example which envisages transfer of most advanced technology from France to India. A number of other contracts are also being considered, he added.

On the question of North-South issue, Cheysson said France will keep up its pressure to get the global negotiations going. Criticizing the stand taken by the United States on this issue, he said developing countries are entirely justified in their demand for a new world economic order. Cheysson disclosed that during his talks today with Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee he has discussed ways and means on how to replenish the funds for International Development Association for the concessional borrowing after the unilateral withdrawal by the United States from its commitment.

Earlier, the French foreign minister had talks with External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao for more than 2 hours. The two leaders discussed bilateral and international matters with particular reference to the situation in West Asia. Cheysson will meet the prime minister later this evening.

More on Conference

BK081715 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Excerpts] France will supply nuclear fuel for the Tarapur reactor at the earliest. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi today French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson said he has already had discussions with External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao on the principles relating to the uranium supply and no difficulty is anticipated on this score.

Replying to a spate of questions, Cleysson clarified that France will not be asking for any special safeguards or joint determination for reprocessing of the spent fuel. The fissile material for reprocessing (?will probably be) subject to the control of International Atomic Energy Agency.

Cheysson said France has decided to enter into a continued dialogue with India on bilateral and world issues. President Mitterrand will be visiting India in November to consolidate the progress made so far in furthering the friendly ties. It may recalled that Mrs Gandhi visited France last year and extended an invitation to President Mitterrand to visit India.

In reply to a question, Cheysson said that France has agreed to join a peacekeeping force in Lebanon to ensure safe evacuation of the PLO personnel. He hoped no one will spoil the remarkable effort which has been to find a solution of the crisis in Lebanon.

He took the United States to task for seeking more time to make its committed contribution to the concessionary financing of the developing countries by the International Development Association. He said during his talks with Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee they discussed ways and means of persuading other developed countries to make good the gap in the American contribution. France stands for such aid on moral, political and economic grounds. If the developing countries do not show economic progress, where will be the market for industrial products of the developed, he asked.

On North-South dialogue, Cheysson said this has again been stalled because of opposition from the United States. He said some decisions were taken at the meeting of the North countries at Versailles on the subject and these were welcomed by many developing countries, including India. But in the UN Assembly the United States was again raising new difficulties. This, Cheysson said, is most worrying.

The French foreign minister also called on Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi and had talks with her for about 1/2 hour.

Departs; Interview Cited

BK090440 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, who left New Delhi last night, has said that France is ready to join the multinational peace force to be stationed in Beirut. Talking to the Spotlight program of All-India Radio last night, he said negotiations have reached a delicate stage.

Cheysson commended India for its progress in science and technology. He said India is the only country in the Third World to have progressed in space science. He recalled the French collaboration in launching India's experimental satellite, Apple. The French minister added that India and the European Economic Community can increase their cooperation through long-term arrangements and contracts.

Referring to the relations between his country and the United States, Cheysson described them as disputes in a family. The disputes, he said, may be hot but not serious.

TURKISH PRIME MINISTER, FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVE

LD061722 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu, accompanied by the Turkish foreign affairs minister, arrived in Tehran this afternoon at the head of a high-ranking delegation.

The Turkish prime minister and his delegation were accorded military honors at Mehrabad Airport. Later they met briefly with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi and Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati. During this meeting the Turkish prime minister spoke about the existing friendship between the two nations of Iran and Turkey. He said: We are glad that our relations with Iran are very good and we hope these relations will continue to grow.

In reply, Mr Musavi said: Our cooperation begins with these friendly relations, and we hope to continue friendly relations with the brother nation of Turkey.

According to a Central News Unit report, Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu, accompanied by the Turkish foreign minister, this afternoon met with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of our country.

During this meeting the Turkish prime minister conveyed a message from the Turkish president to Mr Khamene'i.

Later Mr Khamene'i briefed the Turkish guests in detail on topics relating to the Iraqi-imposed war situation.

Depart 7 August

LD071134 Tehran IRNA in English 0946 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 7 (IRNA) -- Bulent Ulusu, the prime minister of Turkey, and the Turkish foreign minister, Ilter Turkmen, left Tehran at 11:00 am Saturday. They were officially seen off at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport by Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, Foreign Minister Velayati, and the president's advisor, Mir-Salim.

The high-ranking Turkish mission arrived in Tehran Friday and held talks with President Khamene'i and Prime Minister Musavi.

In his meeting with the president, Mr Ulusu presented a message from the Turkish President Kenan Evren. President Khamene'i outlined clearly the position of Iran in the Iraqi-imposed war for the Turkish delegation.

Velayati on Talks

LD081836 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] In the wake of the visit to Iran last Friday of the Turkish prime minister and foreign minister, Foreign Minister Velayati took part in an interview this afternoon with a Central News Unit correspondent and commented on the reason behind the visit, the topics raised during discussions and the outcome of the visit. We draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin recording] [Question] What was the reason for the visit to Iran of the Turkish prime minister and foreign minister [words indistinct]?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As you know, the Turkish president recently sent a letter to President Khameme'i. (?Part of this letter) dealt with the Iran-Iraq war.

In reply to this letter, Mr Khamene'i sent a well-reasoned letter to the Turkish president, reiterating our already stated conditions and [words indistinct]. Following the exchange of these letters, the Turkish prime minister and foreign minister paid a visit to Iran in order to take a more active step, as it were. [passage indistinct]

Just like earlier similar occasions, this time too we held only one meeting in which the Turkish prime minister and foreign minister as well as (?Mr Khamene'i) and I took part. The Turkish prime minister repeated his request, saying he wished to (?mediate) between the two neighboring countries of Iran and Iraq.

In reply, Mr Khamene'i said: We always prefer peace to war. However, here we are concerned with another point as well. The point being that we intend to defend our revolution, that we see certain hands behind Iraq. These hands have been encouraging Iraq to harm our revolution and to fight Iran. If we have to (?make a decision) to choose between [word indistinct] and our revolution, then it is obvious that we shall defend our revolution. [passage indistinct]

We have not altered our terms at all since the very beginning. As for our terms, we have already stated them and you already know them. As long as these terms are not met we shall continue the war. So far, part of one of our conditions has been fulfilled, that being that a great part of our territory has already been liberated as a result of our fighters' efforts. What Iraq claims about [words indistinct] is a lie for it still controls some strategic positions. Had it not been (?for this), then it would have suffered heavier blows with a great many more Iraqi troops having been captured by our forces. [sentence indistinct]

Additionally, we do demand reparations, bearing in mind that these reparations do not cover our entire losses, for non-material losses cannot be recovered. No one can compensate us for the great many of our young people who have been martyred. We are talking about part of our losses, material losses, which we demand.

Moreover, in order to prevent any repetition of similar incidents in the region, it is necessary for an aggressor like Saddam to be punished. So long as these terms are not met we shall continue the war.

Mr Khamene'i told the Turkish prime minister: Why do you insist on dressing a wound which is still infected? We should first try to get rid of the infection before dressing it so that it will not recur. [sentence indistinct] Now that you see Iraq expressing despondency, posing as the oppressed party, it is because it is talking from a position of weakness. If you take a look you will see that the utterances made by the Iraqi regime's leaders since the beginning of the war, as it were, in a position of strength, till now, when they are in a position of weakness, have drastically changed. Our statements and terms since the beginning of the war have remained the same.

This very change in Iraqi leaders' utterances goes to demonstrate that one cannot rely on their promises. These are the type of people who, sensing they have the power, bully their neighbors. On the contrary, sensing their own weakness they become despondent and desperate. [passage indistinct]

We believe that the outcome of this visit resembles the outcome of other visits made by other mediating missions [words indistinct]. We have already stated that we prefer peace to war. However, we have also announced that we shall not compromise in principles. Where there is the question of defending the revolution then it is obvious that we shall not (?compromise). This is a principle which we have always explained to all the mediating missions visiting Iran. Consequently, we explained the very same point to our friends visiting our country and stands, we also discussed relations between the two neighboring countries of Iran and Turkey. These were positive and constructive discussions. [end recording]

KHAMENE'I REJECTS ISLAMIC REPARATIONS FUND OFFER

LD081340 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 8 IRNA -- Foreign Minister Velayati said that afternoon that the Turkish mission had proposed the establishment of an Islamic fund for paying war reparations to Iran. Speaking about the results of the visit of the Turkish mission to Iran, Dr. Velayati further added that the Iranian president had flatly rejected this proposal and stated that the Iranian nation was potentially rich and too dignified to accept such contributions. President Khamene'i had also stressed in the sessions, continued the foreign minister, that the Iranian nation considered Saddam as having been solely responsible for paying war reparations.

Dr. Velayati said that the president had also emphasised that the Iranian nation considered it its right to safeguard the achievements of the Islamic revolution and would do so until its last drop of blood.

Comparing the Iraqi stance at the beginning of the war and its present one following its continuous set-backs, Dr. Velayati said that Iraq had repeatedly waivered in its position versus Iran, and that therefore no pledges or promises from Baghdad could be taken seriously.

The foreign minister warned that the Iraqi subservient regime would plunge the region into chaos if it should be permitted to regain power.

The Turkish delegation led by Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu arrived here on Friday afternoon and after submitting the message of the Turkish president, Kenan Evren, to his Iranian counterpart and holding two rounds of negotiations with the Iranian authorities left here on Saturday.

IRAQI ENVOY'S CLAIM OF MEETING TERMS ASSAILED

LD061022 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 6 (IRNA) -- The Iraqi regime is desperately trying to hold the upcoming non-aligned summit conference in Baghdad, in an attempt to strengthen its precarious political situation, said a Foreign Ministry spokesman Thursday.

However, he added, the Islamic Republic of Iran's combatants' dauntless struggles had led to some countries requests to change the venue of the conference or postpone it and hence the cancellation of the conference was quite probable.

The spokesman was referring the recent remarks of the Iraqi ambassador to Saudi Arabia to the effect that Iraq had accepted Iran's three terms for ending the war. The Foreign Ministry official said this was a new Iraqi stratagem to suggest to the world that Iraq was peace-loving and that Iran opposed peace.

The spokeman of the Foreign Ministry attributed the measure of the Iraqi ambassador to placating the current internal melee in his country. The Iraqi revolutionaries, he added, had created a very insecure environment for the upcoming conference, with the continuation of the war exasperating it.

Hence, he went on, the Iraqi regime aimed at suggesting to its nation which was weary of the war, that it was Iran which was the belligerent party. The aggressor, however, he said, was the Iraqi regime which was still continuing its incursion by occupying Iranian territory and plundering and sacking Iranian border towns.

The spokesman also repudiated the Iraqi (?ambassador's) alleging that the Iraqi troops had fully withdrawn from Iranian territory, and said Iraq still held several strategic western border areas from where it shelled the innocent civilians of Iran.

In conclusion, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Iran will continue to fight until it gained all its due rights and that Iraq was not competent to be a member of the Non-aligned Movement let alone preside over it.

KHOMEYNI: WAR WILL CONTINUE UNTIL TERMS MET

LD081216 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Aug 82

[From the news headlines]

[Text] The interior minister, the commander of the gendarmerie, heads of political-ideological departments, a number of Islamic Republic of Iran Gendarmerie personnel and governors general from all over the country today met with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During this meeting the imam of the community, addressing those in charge of affairs, graciously said: We must think about performing our duties in a way that will satisfy God, the most exalted. Today, the good name of the Islamic Republic, which is the good name of Islam, depends on the good names of those in charge of affairs.

Referring to the fact that governors general are dutybound to supervise all chose who are under their command, the leader of the revolution graciously said: Governors general must make sure that no one who needs access to a governor general is denied it.

The founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, emphasizing the importance of judicial work and accuracy in this matter, addressed judges: They must all remember that they are servants, that their work is very sensitive and that their responsibility is very great.

The imam of the community, referring to the fact that the purpose of our current war is to defend Islam and the good names and honor of the Muslims, graciously said: Everyone should try to satisfy the need for manpower and other things on our borders for as long as necessary.

The commander in chief emphasized: Our entry into Iraqi territory to this extent is to defend Islam and the Islamic country and we must finish this job. As long as they do not meet our conditions our war will continue.

The leader of the revolution graciously said: Our conditions are the ones we set from the beginning and we are faithful to these conditions. As long as these conditions are not met we are at war; we cannot make peace with evil men.

Further Details

LD082130 Tehran IRNA in English 1930 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug 8, IRNA -- Iran will continue fighting until all its terms are met (by the Iraqi regime), announced Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning.

The imam, who was addressing a group of the personnel of the gendarmerie along with the gendarmerie head Colonel Kuchek-Zadeh as well as the provincial governors general and Interior Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri, said it was encumbent on all the nation to meet the needs of the battlefronts, be they in manpower or in other logistical needs.

The leader of the Islamic revolution said there was always a confrontation between Islam and whatever which was not Islamic. He added that all the nation was obliged to defend the Islamic Republic which was a manifestation of Islam.

In another part of his speech Imam Khomeyni repudiated the Iraqi regime's claims on having fully withdrawn from the Iranian territory and said they still occupied some parts of the Islamic homeland and that Iran had to witness for itself the full withdrawal of the Iraqi forces.

Citing the daily shelling of Abadan and other Iranian border cities by the Iraqi long-range artillery, the imam said Iran would never make peace with a country which was saboteur.

In today's meeting, first a report on the recent joint seminar of the Cabinet and the governors general, held in Mashhad, was presented to the imam by Interior Minister Nateq-Nuri and then Colonel Kuchek-Zadeh briefed the imam on the situation of his organisation. Then Imam Khomeyni provided the group with pertinent guidelines.

After stressing that all which was carried out for the sake of the Almighty would never be lost and was viable, the imam said all people who were responsible in the Islamic Republic were bound to fully abide by all Islamic canons and had to carry out their duties in a way befitting Islam.

Imam Khomeyni called on all those who held posts in local revolutionary committees, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) as well as the Islamic judges, government employees, the ulema and armed forces to wield maximum care not to violate Islamic and humanistic codes of behaviour in dealing with the people who summoned their assistance.

The leader of the world's deprived then said: Sometimes a deed which was purely enacted for worship and for gaining the satisfaction of the Almighty Allah, could very delicately end up in a great sin. He noted that those cases were usually on the part of the people who had no intention except serving Islam and the Islamic Republic, but with a bit of heedlessness, their deeds could lead to a sin.

Referring to examples in which some people's inattention had led to the dissatisfaction and discomfort of others, the imam said it was incumbent upon all those who worked for the cause of Allah to be extremely careful as to not violate those norms of behaviour.

The imam concluded his words by imploring the Almighty Allah for granting all Muslims good health and happiness in serving Islam.

KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES RADIO, TV PERSONNEL

LD072100 Tehran IRNA in English 1925 GMT 7 Aug 82

["Islamic Republic Committed to Islam and Not to Expansionism" -- IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, 7 Aug. IRNA -- Iran has never taken a step for war, all has been for defending the Islamic revolution, announced Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran today.

The imam, who was addressing a group of the personnel of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic [VVIR] and its head Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said the Iranian thrust into Iraq was purely for defense and that if Iraq fulfilled the terms it was expected to, Iranian troops would immediately withdraw from Iraq.

The leader of the Islamic revolution said Iran did not covet the Iraqi territory nor had it any claims on Basra or Baghdad, for, the imam said, the Islamic Iran has always been after peace and brotherhood everywhere, because, he added, this had ever been one of the primary canons of Islam. He said all Muslims had to be brothers with each other.

Speaking on the Ba'thist Party of Iraq and Saddam, Imam Khomeyni said the Iraqi nation had always abhorred those two, because they had dispatched the best of the Iraqi people, such as the late Ayatollah Hakim, a religious authority of Iraq, who was constantly harassed by the Iraqi regime.

In an implied reference to ousted President Bani-Sadr and the last prime minister of the entombed shah, Shapur Bakhtiar (now in Paris) as well as to the self-proclaimed crown prince, Reza Pahlavi, he ridiculed Saddam's claim on having "victoriously" retreated from Iran, and noted that Saddam could as well go to Paris, to join his peers calling themselves "legal president, legal shah, legal prime minister" and other legal officials and to form a "legal" proxy government there.

The leader of the revolution said no one had attacked Saddam in the beginning that he has said his invasion of Iran was to defend himself. [sentence as received]

In another part of his speech, Imam Khomeyni referred to the wave of propaganda being waged against Islamic Iran everyday in the world to defile its true visage into that of a monster and said the enemies of Islam were acting in that fashion for they saw their interests were buried in Iran. He also said Iran never entered the battlefield primarily for winning a war but, rather, for carrying out its Islamic duties.

Stressing the importance of the VVIR, Imam Khomeyni expressed satisfaction with the improving output of that organisation and other bodies after the counterrevolutionaries had left Iran.

The leader of the Islamic revolution further added that the modifier 'Islamic" panicked the enemies of Islam and that they opposed the Iranian revolution precisely for its "Islamic" qualities.

In the beginning of the meeting, the VVIR head submitted to the imam a report concerning the performance of the organisation and a survey of efforts undertaken by the VVIR to better introduce Islam to its overseas audience.

FRIDAY IMAM ON AID TO IRAQ, BAGHDAD SUMMIT

LD061524 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Report on Friday sermons given by Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami-Kashani, Tehran's temporary Friday imam, on 6 August at Tehran University]

[Excerpts] In his first sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami-Kashani, Tehran's temporary Friday imam, talked about administrative systems in Islam.

In his second sermon, Tehran's temporary Friday imam talked about the war with the Iraqi regime. He said: Maybe some unaware people abroad and some other groups inside the country think that Iran with its 36 million people is facing Iraq, with its 14 to 15 million people. However, the nations should know, as our nation and the Iraqi nation know, that this is not true, we are facing a group of Ba'thist 'Aflaqites and a group of filthy, misled mercenaries named the Iraqi Ba'thist Armed Forces. They receive help in four forms: money, equipment, manpower and propaganda. Statistics show that when Iran was regaining its occupied territories from the Iraqi invaders, Iraq received about 55 million dollars in financial aid. Iraq also received more financial aid from the (?reactionary) governments of the region last year. On the other hand, Iran was subjected to economic sanctions.

These days, Iraq receives war equipment and modern Soviet tanks from one direction; other equipment has arrived in Iraq from the other direction, from the port of 'Aqaba right next door to Israel. Israel, this ally of Iraq, does not prevent it. From the manpower point of view, Egyptian pilots are working for Iraq. Germany has also recently given Iraq several planes, and convoys of weapons were moving along Kuwaiti highways toward Iraq. Fortunately, it appears that governments of the region want to deal realistically with the problems, and we take this as a good omen.

[Name indistinct], who is an extremist Zionist in the U.S. Senate, says: We should not support Israel in its attack in south Lebanon, but those governments which are facing Iran should be supported. More interesting are the remarks made by the U.S. secretary of defense, who says: After the Israeli attack on south Lebanon, there was no motive for Iran to enter Iraqi territory. He is saying that Iran's attention should be diverted to Lebanon so that it does not enter Iraqi territory. Now the entire world is eagerly and arrogantly waiting to see the defeat of [the current regime in] Iran, because their survival depends on what happens in Iran.

Foreign propaganda has depicted Iran as a monster facing the countries of the region. This propaganda is trying to show that Iran is an aggressor and will invade these countries tomorrow. But Iran is not an aggressor and its leader has graciously stated that it is not permissible to enter someone else's territory. Our entry into Iraqi territory is a defensive not an offensive action. Some of our territory is still being occupied by the Iraqi Armed Forces and our cities are being pounded from Iraqi territory while there is this propaganda against us. The logic of Islam is fraternity and equality and, God willing, all Muslims will unite and will liberate Jerusalem.

In connection with the nonaligned summit, Tehran's temporary Friday imam said: [Begin Emami-Kashani recording] It is highly unlikely that this nonaligned summit will be held in Baghdad. News agencies, some of the world mass media and some (?people) also (?say this). It will not be held there for two basic reasons: First, Baghdad does not have political stability or security. This is very clear and its reason [word indistinct] of the country.

Last night the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic showed (?one of Baghdad's streets). (?Nothing is safe) in a place where people have to move under strict security control and where the Ministry of Interior, whose task is to guard the country's security, is blown up. The explosion killed or wounded so many people that even Iraqi radio announced some of the damage.

It is obvious that a wise man will not risk his life to participate in (?Baghdad's summit). It is obvious that they will not come. The world understands this and the heads of the nonaligned countries also know this. The more Saddam explains about security [words indistinct], (?the less he will encourage the participants).

He might say: We have been building places for this summit for the past 3 years. So what? You have been building these places, but how can you be sure that no explosives are concealed in some parts of these buildings? [passage indistinct] [end recording]

RAFSANJANI INTERVIEWED ON FUTURE OF WAR

LD062310 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, touring Mashhad at the head of a delegation, spoke to our correspondent at Mashhad center, remarking on the situation on the battlefronts and his viewpoints concerning the future of the war as well as Iraq's internal situation.

During this interview the Majlis speaker said: We wish to achieve our goals without any further bloodshed. But the world is deliberately trying to help Iraq to stand on its feet and to continue to resist. In order to show the world [words indistinct] does not stem from any possible weakness on our side, we may possibly embark on dealing once again a few blows to the Iraqis. The speaker stressed: If this resistance continues we may reach Baghdad. We draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The situation on the battlefronts is as good as we might expect. We have succeeded in expelling the Iraqi forces from our country with the exception of a few heights in the west of the country which are still the hands of the Iraqis.

[Words indistinct] after we entered the Iraqi territory we thought that before our forces' arrival there, the Iraqis would have evaluated the situation and would have stopped their mischief and would submit to the fact; but they failed to do so and this forced us to enter Iraqi territory. [passage indistinct] A large number of Iraqi forces have been destroyed and this constitutes a phase in the Ramadan Operation.

As a result of this, people in the region and the world as a whole realized that we were serious in our words as well as our deeds. Now we have assumed a state of wait-and-see; if we could achieve our goals without any further bloodshed and loss of life we would prefer to maintain the current calmness, but we are not prepared to see such calmness prolonged for long. That is because the noises being made by the world propaganda machinery are aimed at further encouraging Iraq to continue to resist a bit more. They have taken our suspension of advance as resistance showed by the Iraqis or our inabilities [words indistinct].

We may be forced to inflict a few more blows on the Iraqis. Of course, here again we would prefer to inflict those blows outside Iraqi cities at the military centers. But if they fail to surrender then [words indistinct] we may be forced to extend our operations. We are prepared in the south to inflict the blows. In the west we may in the future be forced to approach Baghdad if the Iraqi resistance continues [words indistinct]. We pray to God that that situation will not arise. We do not expect and cannot see any preparation by the Iraqi forces for an offensive. If there is, then that is sheer suicide. As regards defense, of course, they may be able to gather together their forces here and there, because defense is easy. They can irrigate the desert, dig new trenches, plant a few mines and use some natural barriers. But their defensive capability is limited and cannot continue for long. In some places they even lack defenses, but on the other hand with the information we have on the Iraqi situation, we are able to hit at locations, thus making our operation even more effective. [end recording]

Continuing his remarks, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani then turned to the internal situation in Iraq, saying:

[Begin Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording] Information available to us suggests that the Ba'th Party is under pressure from inside and outside. We know that the majority of the Iraqi people are enemies of the Ba'th Party. The Ba'th Party has no ground among the people in Iraq as a result of its performances including torture, pressure, imprisonment, massacres and so forth. At the same time countries such as Syria and Libya and South Yemen, which are powerful, also oppose the Ba'th Party. Reactionary countries such as Jordan, Saudi Arabia and some of the small Gulf states and others who support it are either [words indistinct] or can provide Iraq with funds and can be trusted by Iraq because they too are U.S. elements. [passage indistinct]

The Iraqi Armed Forces are ashamed before their nation. They are even ashamed before friends of the Ba'th Party for their failure in performing their mission. They too are lacking any base among the people of Iraq. At the same time, the Iraqi mujahidin have increased their activities, specially the Muslims who have had extensive activities recently. As a result of these developments the Iraqi regime has been forced to make many concessions to the leftists, to release their prisoners, and to submit to some of their demands. Of course, these measures will not result in securing the leftists' confidence; they know well that these concessions have come about as a result of Iran's might and pressures brought by the Muslim forces inside Iraq. [end recording]

MATERIALS CONCERNING RAMADAN OPERATION

Joint Staff Communique 1,008

LD061855 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Communique No 1,008 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The Islamic Republic of Iran's Ground Forces' artillery yesterday opened fire on the enemy positions west of the Arvand Rud, and the Al-Faw-Basra road, which destroyed a number of enemy artillery positions, tank emplacements and infantry bunkers.

Simultaneously with these operations, the fighters of the gendarmerie, while defending their positions along the Arvand Rud embankment, opened fire with their heavy weapons and destroyed 1 enemy ammunition dump, 11 bunkers, 4 observation posts and 1 vehicle carrying Iraqi personnel across the Arvand Rud. During this engagement as least 28 enemy personnel were either killed or wounded.

The fighters of the navy destroyed several bunkers of the Saddamist forces at the same location and killed the Iraqi troops in them.

The mercenaries of Saddam's Zionist-Ba'thist army yesterday heavily shelled Abadan's residential sectors. Some residential buildings were destroyed, one person was martyred and three were injured in the city.

Sporadic exchanges of fire continued in the operational regions on the western fronts. Our forces destroyed several [word indistinct] combat, two vehicles and five enemy bunkers. During this operation 12 Saddamist soldiers were killed.

During exchanges of fire on the Marivan fronts, our forces pounded enemy positions at [words indistinct] regions and destroyed some bunkers and weapon emplacements and killed several enemy soldiers. The enemy suffered relatively heavy casualties during this operation and Iraqi ambulances were seen in the area for a long time carrying away the dead and the wounded.

Enemy aircraft that violated the airspace over our western cities yesterday were driven off by our air defense units, forcing them to flee before taking any action.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

6 Aug Bushehr Red Alert

GF061655 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1645 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Text] Dear listeners: Please pay attention. This is the Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Bushehr. The siren that you are about to hear indicates that an air attack is imminent. [sound of siren]

Guards Corps Communique

LD071740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Communique issued on 7 August by the Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Greetings be upon the imam of the community and the heroic nation, the supporters on the battlefronts and the selfless and valiant personnel of the army of Islam. Here are the results of some of the operations carried out by the valiant combatants of Islam:

At dawn yesterday, the sons of Islam launched an operation codenamed "God's retribution" on the Qasr-e Shirin road leading to the Iraqi region of Firuz Khan and as far as the Qal'eh-ye Sefid border post. Considerable losses were inflicted on the invading Iraqi forces. Our successes include:

Liberating two strategic heights overlooking Qasr-e Shirin, [words indistinct] establishing complete security on the Qasr-e Shirin-Sar-e Pol-e Zahab road; capturing enemy supply routes between Firuz Khan and Beyshahr inside Iraqi territory; destroying an enemy command headquarters at the operational axis, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy armored forces; destroying several tanks and vehicles, an ammunition dump and killing or injuring more than 200 Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist mercenaries.

At 0400 today, the combatants of Islam, the valiant and heroic Ilam tribesmen, the selfless personnel of the revolution guards and the Mobilization force, and the valiants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran formed several guerrilla groups on the Meymak axis and inflicted the following losses and casualties on the aggressive personnel of the Iraqi Army:

The destruction of more than 200 foxholes and trenches, 2 large ammunition dumps, 6 heavy-weapon positions together with their occupants, 3 61-mm and 81-mm mortars, killing more than 90 Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist personnel, injuring a large number of Iraqi personnel and damaging 2 tanks.

[Signed] The Public Relations Office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

Joint Staff Communique 1,009

LD071748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Communique No 1,009 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The results of the battle by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran against the Saddamist Ba'thist invaders during the past 24 hours are brought to the attention of the Muslim and grateful community of Iran:

Yesterday combat and exchange of fire continued on the Qasr-e Shirin and Mehran fronts between the self-sacrificing combatants of Islam -- the warriors of the ground forces, the brave combatants of the gendarmerie and the Guards Corps -- and the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries.

On every front and operational sector, the self-sacrificing warriors of Islam inflicted losses and damages on the Iraqi forces. By destroying Iraqi Ba'thist trucks and several light- and heavy-weapon emplacements, they halted the movements of the Iraqi Ba'thist aggressors. Several personnel of the forces of blasphemy were killed or wounded.

The intense fire by the ground forces on the Marivan front smashed positions and fortifications of the Iraqi Ba'thist invading forces. Combatants of Islam also silenced the fire of the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries and destroyed several trenches and foxholes of the Saddamists with troops deployed in them in the Tutman and Panjwin sectors. Several of the enemy personnel were either killed or wounded.

Sporadic exchanges of fire on the southern fronts continued yesterday. The victorious combatants of Islam, defending and consolidating their own positions, returned and silenced the enemy fire of the Ba'thist mercenaries. One enemy tank and one personnel carrier were set ablaze and destroyed. The warriors of Islam also killed a number of enemy troops by destroying part of their positions and fortifications.

On one of the Ramadan Operation fronts, three misled Saddamists sought asylum in the embrace of Islam and [word indistinct] their units presented themselves to the combative forces of Islam. They were welcomed by the self-sacrificing forces of Islam.

Fire by the brave warriors of the gendarmerie on Saddamist positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud destroyed nine Saddamist trenches and foxholes and killed several Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries.

As on previous days, the city of Abadan came under long-range and heavy-artillery fire yesterday by the Iraqi Ba'thist criminals. The city mosque was damaged and four people in the mosque were wounded. Iraqi mercenary fire on the Abadan region martyred 1 of our dear compatriots and wounded 14 others.

All air attacks by the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries on southern and western border regions yesterday were repulsed. The timely fire of the air defense units and tactical actions of the self-sacrificing pilots of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran forced the violating planes of the Iraqi Ba'thist aggressive forces to flee.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Ilam Airspace Violated

LD071756 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit and IRNA, the aircraft of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime continued their repeated aggressions against our cities by violating the airspace of Ilam at 2002 and 2130 last night and at 0100, 0430 and 0930 this morning. However, the antiaircraft fire of the vigilant air defense units of the Islamic Republic of Iran forced them to flee before carrying out any operations.

Iraqis Using T-76's

LD071202 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1107 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, 7 Aug (KUNA) -- Commander of the Iranian Revolution Guards Mohsen Reza'i was today quoted here as saying that the Iraqi forces in the recent battles between Iraqi and Iranian forces north of Basra used modern and sophisticated Soviet-made tanks. He said that these Soviet-made T-76 tanks have not been given by Moscow to any country outside the Warsaw pact. These statements by the Iranian official have been published in the Iranian press. He also claimed that the Iranian forces have destroyed and captured a number of these tanks. Iraq has announced that its forces have inflicted a crushing defeat on all Iranian attacks in that region since 13 July.

8 Aug Bushehr Red Alert

GF080517 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 0510 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] This is Bushehr, Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dear listeners: Please pay attention. The siren you are about to hear indicates that an air raid is imminent. [sound of siren]

Joint Staff Communique 1,010

LD081752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Communique No 1,010 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Operations by the forces defending the Islamic revolution continued over the past 24 hours. Our troops directed their fire on enemy infantry and armor positions and logistical axes. Islam's forces, enjoying superior combat capability and morale, inflicted substantial losses on the Saddamist forces on all the operational fronts, killing or wounding more Iraqi military personnel.

On the country's western fronts, our fighting units were able to destroy seven enemy vehicles, three tanks, much military equipment and three engineering vehicles. In addition, an enemy supply bridge was damaged and a number of Saddamists were killed. Combative tribal warriors returned enemy fire with strength on every front under their protection in the western part of the country; they are carrying out their missions with reconnaissance and combat operations. Activity by the forces of Islam on the Marivan front have been very effective, and our combatants prevented the Ba'thist mercenaries from carrying out deployment and movement on the Moro heights by directing artillery fire against them.

In the operational sectors south of the country Islam's forces, enjoying victory coming from God, have total operational initiative and, maintaining their control over areas under their protection, are defending their positions. There was exchange of fire in the Khorramshahr and Abadan regions over the past 24 hours and the fighters of the Gendarmerie of Islamic Republic of Iran, while preventing the enemy from deployment and troop movement on the other side of the Arvand Rud, opened fire on Saddamists' troop concentrations and killed or wounded a number of them.

Yesterday enemy mortar shelling of Abadan destroyed 15 houses, setting them ablaze. Yesterday air defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran neutralized enemy violations in the southern and western parts of the country by their timely fire and forced the intruding enemy aircraft to leave the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Successes Reported

LD081934 Tehran IRNA in English 1703 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Bakhtaran, Aug 8 IRNA -- Many logistical bridges and depots of the aggressor Iraqi forces were smashed over the 24 hours preceding Sunday as the enemy's positions and equipment in Tang-e Hammam and Tang-e Bord Ali, in Bakhtaran Province, were barraged by the Islamic defenders. In these operations, some Iraqis were killed or wounded as the Iranian forces disabled 2 enemy vehicles and damaged 8 engineering vehicles.

On the western fronts of Nowsud, Sumar, Marivan, and Qasr-e Shirin, exchanges of fire continued during this same time. The Islamic forces in the Marivan front of Kordestan Province, storming the Iraqi positions in the Moro region, halted the enemy movements, killing 5 Iraqi soldiers and wounding 4 others as well as destroying 2 enemy vehicles in the Hajji Chakur region.

Meanwhile, some Iraqi fighter planes, which violated the airspace of Ilam, Bakhtaran and Islamabad Sunday morning, were soon repulsed without carrying any mission, by the anti-aircraft fire of the Iranian defenders.

Fighting in Arvand Rud Area

LD082340 Tehran IRNA in English 2006 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Abadan, Aug 8, IRNA -- The Islamic combatants stationed accross the Arvand River banks zeroed in on the enemy bunkers on the other side of the river, destroying one big munitions depot, one water reservoir, five machine gun positions, two observation posts and two group bunkers, killing several Iraqi soldiers.

The Islamic defenders in Abadan targetted the enemy positions around Saybah beyond the Arvand River and extinguishing their 106-mm gun fire destroyed two surveillance posts, one 106-mm gun and one 75-calibre gun position of the Iraqis while killing at least 15 enemy aggressors.

Iraqi aircraft violated the air space of Abadan for eight times today to bombard the residential areas but were forced to flee by the defenders of the Islamic Republic before launching any attacks.

NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

LD071810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report Mr Boldyrev, the new ambassador of the Soviet Union to the Islamic Republic of Iran, visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this afternoon and presented his credentials to Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati.

During this meeting, the Soviet ambassador said he hopes relations between the two neighboring countries will expand day-by-day and that, as the new ambassador, he will be successful in this matter.

In reply, Mr Velayati said: We also welcome the expansion of relations with our neighbor country on the basis of mutual respect, nonintervention in internal affairs and respect for each other's sovereignty. In such conditions relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Soviet Union can be the symbol of relations between two neighboring countries with different social systems.

KHO'INI ON SOVIET POLICY TOWARD IRAQ, LEBANON

LD082300 Tehran IRNA in English 2014 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Text] Tehran, Aug 8, IRNA -- "The Soviet Union in its foreign policy...has been defeated in recent years and my view is that the Soviet officials are also making a revision and they are looking for a good chance to start," said Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Kho'ini in the second part of his interview with the Persian daily KEYHAN today. Speaking on major regional topics, Kho'ini, explaining the Soviets' silence on the present Palestinian issue, said that the Soviets have suffered a set-back in the diplomatic field and entangled in an impasse. "They (the West) have seized the initiative from them (the Soviets)," he said.

In his interview, the Majlis deputy and recently appointed representative of Imam Khomeyni to the hajj ceremonies pictured the Islamic Republic as a world power which should trust in the teachings of the prophet of Islam as a source for delineating its foreign policy. "Just like when the prophet of Islam wrote letters to countries and governments during his time and demands them...to stop their pressure on the people, and to permit the people to accept the truth, so must we follow the same principle in our foreign policy and relations," he said.

The Islamic Republic, he said, should back those countries which had turned away from the U.S. even though to a limited extent only and thus it would help such countries to tread their path more confidently.

Giving Syria as an example, Hojjat ol-Eslam Kho'ini told the KEYHAN interviewer that although Syria did not adhere to the policy of "Neither East nor West" but that nonetheless the Islamic Republic should not connive at pressures being brought by other governments upon Syria especially now that it was in the forefront of its struggle against the Zionist regime. He said that if outside pressure on Syria would continue it would eventually plunge into the status of Egypt at the time of An-Nasir with all the possibilities of degrading even further into a status similar to the era of As-Sadat and his successor Mubarak.

Concerning the future of Iraq, Kho'ini said that if Saddam Husayn had not made an aggression against the Islamic Republic in a preemptive move to curb anticipated revolts at home, Iran would never try to take the initiative in toppling the Iraqi Ba'thist regime. He said "if the present grounds had not been prepared by Saddam himself this action (entering Iraqi territory to liberate the Iraqi people) would not have been logical or acceptable to the world, however much as we desired to go and save the Iraqi people."

He also added that Iraq was one of the countries which had been well invested by the Soviet Union but had slipped away into the hands of the U.S. whether the Soviets liked it or not. "We hope", said Kho'ini, "to see the emergence of an Islamic Republic (in Iraq) which would slap both the Soviets and the U.S. and throw both of them out."

TEHRAN OPPOSES PLO EVICTION FROM BEIRUT

GF081340 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The Zionist Regime's Attacks Against Lebanon Continue"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: It has been nearly 2 months since the racist Zionist regime, which is against humanity, launched its savage attacks against the Lebanese and the heroic people of Palestine. In the course of this time the people of Lebanon and Palestine have created legends through their determined resistance. Meanwhile, the usurper United States and criminal Israel have been occupied in massacring women and children with the most deadly weapons, including napalm and phosphorous bombs.

On the other hand, the compromising Arab states have continued their usual indifference, hinting through their silent attitude that they accept everything.

As for the United Nations, it has become obvious that the UN resolutions have been ignored by the racist Tel Aviv murderers. In fact, UN observers failed to secure access to Beirut from the Zionist troops during the last few days. Thus, everyone has come to understand that this organization is totally useless.

Currently, the cruel and merciless attitude of Begin and Reagan has reached such a point that a number of obervers have compared what has befallen the Muslim people in Lebanon to the disaster the Jewish people endured under Hitler, concluding that the war in Lebanon is being prolonged inhumanely with a view to eliminating the Muslim people of Palestine.

With the increasing political and military pressure of international oppressors, the massacre of the Palestinian people has entered a new phase, thanks to the silence of compromising leaders. It has become obvious that the conspiracy hatched by the leaders of international oppressors in Versailles is being gradually realized. It now seems that from the viewpoint of international oppressors the question of Lebanon is arriving at the last stop as a result of the many-sided mobilization embarked upon by compromising leaders, imperialism and Zionism.

At this historic juncture, the responsibility on the shoulders of the Muslims of Palestine and the world of Islam is making its weight felt more than ever. Obviously, the future of the Palestinian Islamic revolution and the hope for stability in the region concern only the Islamic masses.

With this view in mind, it is our conviction that the Muslim Palestinians must remain in Lebanon no matter what the cost may be. The true struggle must be waged by the Palestinian fighters. The day the Islamic world will eliminate those who have been aiding the Zionists -- in fact, those who have been helping the Zionists in the massacre of the Muslims -- is not too far off. The Muslims will eventually eliminate those who betray the sacred ideal of the Muslims and the free people of the world. The revolution will be carried on the shoulders of the Muslim masses until its target is achieved.

A generation of the Palestinian Islamic revolution is being killed in Lebanon. Meanwhile, the latter is being trampled upon by fascists and Zionists. Nonetheless, ministers who are actually businessmen are holding ceremonies and organizing entertainment on the shores of the Mediterranean. The truth is that even if only one Palestinian fighter manages to survive through this ordeal, some day he will liberate sacred Jerusalem with the help of the 1 billion Muslims of the world and remove the racist Zionists from the face of the world. In short, he will retrieve the lost [word indistinct] of the Muslims.